DDT in Milk

3464. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether DDT in milk is about 14 times higher than the permissible limit of WHO in some regions of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its effect on human being;

(c) whether India will not be in a position to export milk products in the next five years due to high DDT/BHC residues in milk; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government to reduce DDT from milk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) There is no reported evidence that the tolerance limit for DDT is 14th times higher than permissible limit. The Indian Council of Medical Research has brought out a report on Surveillance of Food contaminants in India which, interalia, found that of the 2205 samples screened 37% of the samples contained DDT residues above tolerance limit.

(c) The importing Countries have prescribed tolerance limits of pesticides residues under their own food laws which are taken into consideration while exporting milk products from India. Pesticide residues remain in the soil for several decades, after they are used. This phenomenon is world-wide and not restricted only to India.

(d) The Government has already banned the use of DDT and BHC in Agriculture; The use of BHC under the Malaria Control Programme has been banned with effect from 1.4.1997. It has been decided to phase out the use of DDT which is only being used now under the National Malaria Eradication Programme in limited quantities in the areas where the mosquito vector is particularly susceptible. A high level Committee has been constituted to identify the areas where DDT is cost effective and to limit its use for essential public health functions only.

Computer Software Industry

3465. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope for promoting computer software industry in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to promote such units in the State;

(c) the specific proposals mooted by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of India, Department of Electronics has set up Software Technology Park at Bhubaneshwar to promote software industry in the State of Orissa. In addition, the Department of Electronics has supported implementation of computer courses viz. Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Application (PGDCA), Master of Computer Application (MCA), B.Tech and ITI level in various Universities/Educational Institutes in the State for development of manpower in software area.

Training Institutes

3466. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government contemplate to involve industry in the Industrial Training Institutes;

(b) whether any agency has been set up to monitor the inter-action between industry and training Institutions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments are the agencies implementing the Craftsmen Training Scheme through the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) established under their jurisdiction. The State Directors dealing with the scheme monitor the Industry-institute inter-action through Local Advisory Committees attached to each ITI.

(c) The Local Advisory Committees attached to each ITI comprises of the Principal of the ITI, two representatives from local industry, one from Labour and Local Employment Offices. The function of the Advisory Committee is to advise the ITI on various training matters and suggest measures to adopt the training programmes to meet the local needs of industry.

Facilities in AIIMS

3467. SHRI HARADHAN ROY :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of facilities available for the treatment of serious patients in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi;

(b) whether the facilities of shelters/Darmashalas etc. are also available in the said institute;

(c) the number of beds/cots available at present in AIIMS, particularly in Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital of AIIMS for the treatment of patients;